

Message Text

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SUBJECT: JULY 13 NIHON KEIZAI FRONTPAGE ARTICLE RE ANTICIPATED CUT-
BACK

IN JAPANESE POLLACK QUOTA IN U.S. FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE

1. PARA 2 BELOW CONTAINS FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE FRONT PAGED IN
JULY 13 NIHON KEIZAI.

2. BEGIN HEADLINE: US GOVERNMENT INFORMALLY NOTIFIES JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT OF ITS INTENTION TO HOLD DOWN TOTAL ALASKA POLLACK CATCH
QUOTA IN EASTERN BERING SEA TO 800,000 TONS NEXT YEAR. END HEADLINE.

BEGIN TEXT: ACCORDING TO A CLARIFICATION MADE BY A SOURCE CONCERNED
ON THE 12TH, LOOKING TOWARD THE JAPAN-US FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS IN
AUGUST, THE US GOVERNMENT RECENTLY HAS TRANSMITTED INFORMALLY TO THE
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS INTENTION TO HOLD DOWN VARIOUS COUNTRIES'
TOTAL CATCH QUOTAS FOR ALASKA POLLACK IN THE EASTERN BERING SEA
NEXT YEAR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE US. IF THIS TOTAL QUOTA COMES
TO BE FIXED FORMALLY, THE AMOUNT OF OUR COUNTRY'S ALASKA POLLACK
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CATCH WILL SHARPLY DECREASE TO LESS THAN HALF, AT A STROKE, FROM THE

PRESENT 1 MILLION TONS, AND IT IS DEFINITELY CERTAIN THAT A SHARP DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS WILL BECOME INEVITABLE. FURTHERMORE, AS THE CATCHING OF ALASKA POLLACK IN US WATERS ACCOUNTS FOR 10 PERCENT OF OUR COUNTRY'S TOTAL FISH CATCH AND A LITTLE OVER 20 PERCENT OF FISHCATCH BY OUR COUNTRY'S DEEP-SEA FISHERY, IF THE ALASKA POLLACK CATCH IS DECREASED TO LESS THAN HALF, OUR COUNTRY'S SUPPLY OF MARINE PRODUCTS WILL SUFFER A DRASTIC BLOW. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE FISHERIES AGENCY WILL TAKE COUNTERMEASURES WITH ITS RESOURCES ARGUMENT AGAINST SUCH A US UNILATERAL REDUCTION PLAN, AND IS PLANNING TO SECURE THE ACTUAL FISH-CATCH RESULTS IN THE PAST. BESIDES, FISHING INDUSTRY CIRCLES CENTERING ON THE JAPAN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION (CHAIRMAN: TOMOYOSHI KAMENAGA), ON THE 27TH DECIDED TO DISPATCH TO THE U.S. HURRIEDLY A DELEGATION COMPOSED OF LARGE FISHERIES COMPANIES' LEADERS. CENTERING ON ALASKA POLLACK OUR COUNTRY IS CATCHING 1.5 MILLION TONS INCLUDING ALSO BLACK COD, BONITO, AND TUNA, A YEAR IN FISHING-GROUNDS OFF THE WESTERN COASTS OF THE U.S., INCLUDING THE EASTERN BERING SEA. THIS AMOUNT OF FISH CATCH IS A HIGH PROPORTION EQUIVALENT TO ABOUT 15 PERCENT, OF OUR COUNTRY'S FISHERIES, THE GOVERNMENT CONCLUDED THAT THE JAPAN-US FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON FROM AUGUST 18, ARE "DECISIVE-BATTLE" NEGOTIATIONS, WHERE A REDUCTION IN FISH CATCH WILL NOT ONLY SERIOUSLY AFFECT THE SUPPLY OF FISH DIRECTLY, BUT ALSO MAKE A RETREAT AT THE FORTH-COMING NEGOTIATIONS COME TO BE LINKED INTACT TO A COMPLETE COLLAPSE OF DEEP-SEA FISHERY IN THE 200-NAUTICAL-MILE ECONOMIC-WATERS AGE. SO, SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE JAPAN-US SUMMIT TALKS AND OF US SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RICHARDSON'S VISIT TO JAPAN, THE GOVERNMENT HAS SO FAR PROPOSED TO THE US SIDE TO REQUEST THE ACTUAL FISH-CATCH RESULTS IN THE PAST IN THE FORM OF SHELVE THE 200-NAUTICAL-MILE ISSUE.

HOWEVER, THE US PLAN THIS TIME FOR FIXING TOTAL QUOTAS AT 800,000 TONS IS A PLAN WHICH HAS COMPLETELY IGNORED OUR COUNTRY'S HITHERTO-MADE PROPOSALS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT IN FISHING-GROUNDS IN THE EASTERN BERING SEA, IN ADDITION TO OUR COUNTRY, THE ROK IS A PRESENT CATCHING FROM 250,000 TONS TO 300,000 TONS OF FISH AND THE USSR IS CATCHING ABOUT 250,000 TONS. BESIDES, EUROPEAN FORCES, SUCH AS EAST GERMANY AND POLAND, ARE ALSO CONDUCTING FISHING OPERATIONS, SO, IT IS SAID THAT THE TOTAL FISH CATCH AMOUNTS TO 1.6 MILLION OR 1.7 MILLION TONS.

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BECAUSE OF THIS, WITH TOTAL QUOTAS OF 800,000 TONS, IT WILL BECOME ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR COUNTRY TO SECURE THE ACTUAL RESULTS OF 1 MILLION TONS. BESIDES, THE SITUATION IS THAT IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SECURE 500,000 TONS, OR HALF THE ACTUAL RESULTS BY OUR COUNTRY. IF OUR COUNTRY'S FISH-CATCH QUOTAS COME TO BE SET AT BELOW 500,000 TONS, LARGE FISHERIES COMPANIES' 12 FLEETS OF MOTHERSHIP-TYPE VESSELS, WHICH ARE AT PRESENT CONDUCTING FISHING OPERATIONS IN THE EASTERN BERING SEA, AND NEARLY

200 TRAVEL-VESSELS, WHICH ARE CALLED NORTHWARD VESSELS, WILL COME
TO BE FORCED TO REDUCE THEIR NUMBERSHARPLY. END TEXT.
HODGSON

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